UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY IN THE UNITED STATES RECEIVING OFFICE

In re Application of:

Applicant:

LOUIS F. GATTI

Application No.:

PCT/US99/08838

Filed:

22 April 1999

For:

VULCANIZABLE ELASTOMERIC

COMPOSITIONS FOR USE AS TIRE TREADS

<u>AMEDMENT</u>

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Box PCT

Washington, D.C. 20231

Attention:

 Dr. Callie Shosho

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Written Opinion dated 5 April 2001, kindly amend this appli-

cation as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 8 and 15 without limitation, admission or prejudice.

Rewrite claims 1, 7 and 14 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A tire tread, comprising:

100 parts by weight of at least one diene-based elastomer; and

from about 30 to about 160 phr of filler, said filler comprising at least [about] 7 phr of zinc

sulfate to modify the viscoelastic properties of said elastomer.

7. (Twice Amended) A tire tread, comprising:

100 parts by weight of at least one diene-based elastomer; and

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